

**FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

Captain Isaac Paine School  
160 Foster Center Road  
Foster, RI 02825

Tuesday, March 24, 2015  
Open Session – 7:15 PM

1. **Convene Meeting** – Cahir, Kathleen Swanson, called the meeting of the Foster School Committee (FSC) to order on Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 7:15 PM.
  - a. *Roll Call* – all members were present: Kathleen Swanson, Chair, Shelley Pezza, Vice-chair, Ron Cervasio, member, Superintendent, Caroline Caswell, and FSC secretary, Helena McCullough.
  - b. *Pledge of Allegiance* – was recited.
2. **Public Comment** – Ron Cervasio made a comment.
3. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC **voted to go into Executive Session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (a) (1) Personnel – Superintendent Search, 42-46-5(a) (2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation –Foster Teachers’ Association.** Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC reconvened Open Session. Motion carried. Vote = 3-0-0.

Mrs. Swanson reported that Collective Bargaining and Litigation – Foster Teachers’ Association were discussed. No votes were taken.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC voted to “Seal” the minutes from Executive Session. Motion carried. Vote = 3-0-0.
4. **Building Use Requests** – there were no requests.
5. **Approval of Minutes** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson the Open minutes for January 29, 2015 and February 24, 2015 were approved. Motion carried. Vote = 3-0-0.
6. **Approval of Warrants** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the Warrant run #18 dated February 28, 2015 for \$150,131.61. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the Warrant run #19 dated February 28, 2015 for \$13,765.13. Motion passed.

Vote = 3-0-0. On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved Warrant run #20 dated March 13, 2015 for \$26,795.27. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

- a. *Business Manager's Report* – Michael Petrarca, Business Manager, provided the FSC with his report and stated that this year's budget is on solid financial footing. He also provided the Auditor's Report and cover letter, stating that they had no finding and the two payroll issues from last year have been addressed.

## **7. Old Business (for discussion/action)**

- a. *Capital Improvements* – Discussion – no votes were taken but the discussion consisted of moving ahead with the new well, putting dollars aside toward a new heating system, and the front entrance.
- b. *2015-2016 Budget*
  - 1) *Public hearing* – discussion: increase legal services, \$500 toward a testing coordinator, and create a Capital UCOA line item.
  - 2) *Adoption* – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC adopted the 2015-2016 Budget as presented. Motion carried. Vote = 3-0-0.
- c. *Housing Aid Application Status Report* – Dr. Caswell reported that there was not a lot to report but Stage 1 was approved by RIDE and there is work in progress for completing Stage II, which is a lot more extensive and we have a year to complete.

## **8. New Business (for discussion/action)**

- a. *MOA – FTA* – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSC approved the Memorandum of Agreement with the Foster Teachers' Association and Teacher as presented. Discussion. Motion passed. Vote – 3-0-0.
- b. *Personnel – Retirement / Resignation – Teacher* – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio, the FSD accepted the resignation of Laurie Murphy with regret. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
- c. *House Bill #5385 – Transparency Testing* – discussion, no votes taken. Possible Resolution – Future Agenda Item.
- d. *Attendance Policy #5142 – Revision* – discussion, no votes taken, Future Agenda Item.

## **9. Communication/Reports**

- a. *Correspondence*
- b. *District Building Committee Report* – Mr. Cervasio, a member of the Building Committee, informed the FSC that the roof and the way it was constructed has been a big topic of discussion. He and John Obiurka will be meeting with the

roofing company to discuss the edging that is falling off and what avenue should be taken to address the situation.

- c. *District Building Report* – John Obiurka, Building Supervisor supplies the FSC with his report.
- d. *Principal's Report* – Kristen Danusis, Principal, supplies the FSC with her report.
- e. *Superintendent's Report* – Caroline Caswell, superintendent, supplied the FSC with her report.

**10. Future Agenda Items –**

- a. Resolution – don't want school classification to be associated with PARCC

**11. Adjournment** – on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mr. Cervasio the FSC voted to adjourn at 8:46 PM. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough  
Secretary Foster School Committee